

03500.015502

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
NAOTO ARAKAWA) : Examiner: K. Poon
Application No.: 09/892,450) : Group Art Unit: 2624
Filed: June 28,, 2001) :
For: SERVER APPARATUS, IMAGE) October 19, 2005
PROCESSING APPARATUS, :
INFORMATION PROCESSING)
APPARATUS, CONTROL METHOD :
OF SERVER APPARATUS,)
CONTROL METHOD OF IMAGE :
PROCESSING APPARATUS,)
INFORMATION PROCESSING :
METHOD OF INFORMATION)
PROCESSING APPARATUS, AND :
STORAGE MEDIUM THEREOF)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed September 19, 2005.

In the action, it was alleged that the claims of Groups I, II and III are distinct because they are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination and because they have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification. These allegations are respectfully traversed. It is submitted that the amount of

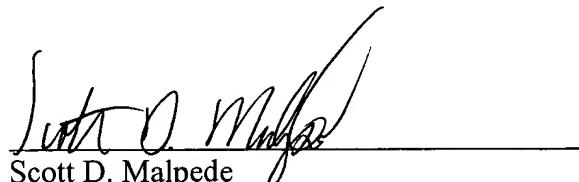
effort required by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office would be lessened by permitting all of the claims presently in the application to be prosecuted in a single application. The alternative is to proceed with the filing of another application, consisting of the same disclosure, and being subjected to substantially the same search, perhaps by a different Examiner on a different occasion, with the resultant burden on the Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the requirement for restriction and allow the claims presently in the application to be prosecuted in a single application.

Nevertheless, in order to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.143, Applicant provisionally elects the claims of Group III, namely Claims 21-28 and 32-36.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott D. Malpede
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,533

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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